



State of Washington
Department of Fish and Wildlife

Mailing Address: 600 Capitol Way N, Olympia WA 98501-1091, (360) 902-2200, TDD (360) 902-2207
Main Office Location: Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia WA

March 17, 2015

Mr. Rick Lind
8 Sage Lane
Tonasket, WA 98855-8808

Dear Mr. Lind,

Thank you for your thorough and thoughtful review of the proposed programmatic SEPA determination for our Lake and Stream Rehabilitation Program. I will attempt to address your comments in the order in which you made them.

I apologize that some of the internet links in our referenced documents have changed but the documents the links refer to can be easily found.

The rotenone treatment process does not impact water quality in relation to irrigation withdrawals, either from the content of the inert ingredients, nor an increase in bacteria load.

There is no documented research showing accelerated aquatic weed growth as a result of the presence of rotenone.

The 2002 EIS Supplemental Impact Statement you site states that "Since that time WDFW has treated 508 state waters at least once." The term "state waters" refers to both lakes and reservoirs.

Although we may gain some measure of 'biological control' when we stock piscivorous fish in various fish communities, like our tiger muskie program, the primary management purpose is sport fishing opportunity. It would be impractical to expect similar results when comparing the use of rotenone with stocking piscivorous sport fish. The same can be said for comparing the use of rotenone with mechanical removal, such as the use of gill nets and electrofishing.

According to our 2013 statewide angler preference survey, 77% of all licensed anglers in Washington fished for trout the previous year. Of that same group, 31% said trout was their most preferred species, followed by salmon at 18% and bass was the most preferred species of 10% of all licensed anglers. As we move forward, we will continue to attempt

to balance opportunities for all anglers in the state. We are fully aware of the value and importance of warmwater fishing and its loyal followers.

Since we normally do our treatments in October and November, use by swimmers, boaters and water skiers should be minimal, as would be their contribution to the local economy at that time of the year.

Thank you again for your comments. All comments received are taken into consideration when managing our Lake and Stream Rehabilitation Program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B Bolding". The signature is stylized with a large initial "B" and a cursive "Bolding".

Bruce Bolding

Warmwater Fish Program Manager